GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:309
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
UTILISATION OF TRANSPONDERS BY PRASAR BHARATI CORPORATION
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Space has asked the Prasar Bharati Corporationto pay an amount of Rs.500 crore for using its transponders or face a black-out;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING,MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AN PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE):

(a)&(b) The Department of Space had requested Ministry of Information andBroadcasting to pay for the INSAT transponder capacity utilised. The total amount payable by Ministry of Information & Broadcastingto Department of Space was Rs.316.00 Crores − Rs.144.00 Crores for Financial Year 2001-02 and Rs.172.00 Crores for Financial Year 2002-03.

(c) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has informed the Department ofSpace that Prasar Bharati being a Grantee Organisation is unable to pay the transponder charges.